

STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

[Archived Student Assessment News](#)

March 25, 2015

Connecticut State Department Of Education

CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov

860-713-6860

CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science

All CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science assessments must be submitted on the [CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Data Entry Web site](#) by this Friday, March 27, 2015. District Test Coordinators should confirm that CMT/CAPT Science Skills Checklist data has been submitted for all Grade 5, 8 and 10 students.

Grade 5 Mathematics Classroom Activity

The **Grade 5 Mathematics Classroom Activity – School Fair** was updated on Friday, March 20, to clarify a statement in the activity. Schools that are assigned this classroom activity and have not yet administered it should retrieve the updated version in [TIDE](#).

Students who qualify for an English Learner (EL) Exemption

Some English Learners (EL) may be eligible for an exemption from the Smarter Balanced English language arts (ELA)/literacy assessment or the ELA Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA). For a student to qualify as EL Exempt, the following two conditions must apply:

1. The student is identified as EL and enrolled for the first time in a U.S. school after:
 - March 17, 2014 – Grades 3 - 8 (Smarter Balanced)
 - April 27, 2014 – Grade 11 (Smarter Balanced)
 - March 30, 2014 – Grades 3 - 8 and 11 (CTAA)
2. The student was administered an appropriate language proficiency assessment.

The student is still required to be administered the Smarter Balanced Mathematics assessment, or the CTAA Mathematics assessment, and CMT/CAPT Science or CMT/CAPT Skill Checklist Science in Grades 5, 8 and 10.

Students assessed with Smarter Balanced who qualify for this exemption need to be identified in TIDE. Students assessed with the CTAA will be recorded as EL exempt in a manner to be determined in the near future. There will be a place to note these students in TIDE soon.

NCSC System Update

On March 13, 2015, the CSDE became aware of an error in the upload of Test Administrators into the NCSC Assessment System. E-mail addresses in some cases are associated with a different individual or district. Please see the [March 16, 2015, Student Assessment Newsletter](#), in which Test Administrators were asked to confirm their user profile information. Please do not call the NCSC help desk regarding this error. Test Administrator Profiles are being corrected. If a Test Administrator profile error still exists, contact Janet Stuck at 860-713-6837/Janet.Stuck@ct.gov or Joe Amenta at 860-713-6855/joseph.amenta@ct.gov.

REMINDERS:



Smarter Balanced Test Information Distribution Engine and Public School Information System Data Sync

The CSDE has refreshed the student-level data in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE). The daily sync between TIDE and the Public School Information System (PSIS) Registration Module is engaged. All changes to student enrollment and demographic information should be made in PSIS. **Changes made in PSIS may take up to 24 hours to appear in TIDE.** Any changes to a student's status at the time of testing should be made directly in the PSIS Registration Module. The PSIS Registration Module has been updated to include new fields for **Special Education, English Learner, and Economically Disadvantaged Status during testing**, so these fields can be modified to reflect a student's status at the time of testing. The CSDE copied the status for those variables from the January 2015 collection of PSIS into the student's registration record. In registration, these fields should reflect the student's status at the time of testing.



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If the student did not have a change to any of those statuses between the January 2015 collection and at the time of testing, you will not need to update any of those fields in PSIS Registration. You will need to provide these statuses for students who:

- enrolled in your district after January 12, 2015; OR
- changed enrollment from a non-tested grade to a tested grade after January 12, 2015; OR
- had a status change at the time of testing.

Example: A student was identified as receiving special education services in the January 2015 collection, but was no longer receiving special education services in March 2015. In this example, you will need to change the Special Education status to "no" in Registration.

The grade in PSIS should always reflect the grade in which the student is being educated. Additionally, if two or more districts have the same student SASID actively registered in PSIS, TIDE will assign the student to the district with the latest district entry date.

reminder

NCSC/CTAA Students and TIDE

Students who are registered on the [CSDE Accommodations Data Collection Web site](#) for the NCSC/CTAA are not listed in TIDE, because they are not being administered the Smarter Balanced assessments.

reminder

Data Privacy

Please see the [CSDE Data Protection and Privacy Frequently Asked Questions](#) document that contains information about protecting student data.

reminder

Documentation of Security Incidents: Use of Test Security Incident Log and Appeals System

School Coordinators (SC) and District Test Coordinators (DC) should ensure that all test security incidents are documented in the [Test Security Incident Log](#). Prior to the test administration, SCs or DCs are responsible for providing Teacher (TEs)/Test Administrators (TAs) with the [Test Security Incident Log](#) located at <http://CT.portal.airast.org>. It is recommended that DCs/SCs download the template and pre-populate the District ID and School ID fields. TEs/TAs must log incidents immediately upon identification and submit them, via e-mail or alternate district protocol, to their SCs/ DCs. District staff should establish a process that includes how frequently these logs should be submitted and communicate this preference to their staff. The description of each column header is included in the template. In addition to logging all test security incidents in the Test Security Incident Log, incidents requiring specific actions to be taken regarding the test itself are to be escalated via the Appeals module of TIDE. Districts will be asked to provide their Test Security Incident Log to the CSDE at the end of testing.

reminder

AIR Smarter Balanced Help Desk

The AIR Smarter Balanced Help Desk is available at 1-844-202-7583 and CTHelpDesk@air.org. The Help Desk Call Center is open Monday – Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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